

January 5, 1984

LB 318

SPEAKER NICHOL: Three.

SENATOR NEWELL: I think I will speak and I will speak briefly. I would like to make a couple of points that I think are relevant. One of the points that I have heard is that, and I love the way this argument has been framed, if you are absolutely without sin, and we all want to be that, you should vote for the good guys and the good guys are for the law. Now if you have ever violated the law, you admit it if you vote to kill the bill. I think that is an excellent argument, cunning, crafty, sneaky, but it isn't particularly relevant. I think the relevant issue here is simply this, that if we really want to encourage people to follow the law sneaking up on them isn't going to help do that. The fact that the patrol will be seen and marked will be very helpful in encouraging people to obey the law. There will be more of these automobiles that are marked out there to do the many things that the State Patrol does and does well for our safety, and that is why we should continue to have and require marked cars. Now there might have been a reason, Senator Beutler, as you so eloquently argued before, in the olden days before all this fancy equipment, radar, et cetera, et cetera, to have unmarked cars because you had to follow along for a certain period of time and try to catch somebody speeding, and maybe there was an argument and some justification at that time. But with the equipment we have today, the equipment allows you to see someone well far away to clock them, to take that to court, and that I think is assurance enough for the protection of our citizens. To provide some feeling that there is in fact enforcement out on our highways, we should mark these automobiles and that is why this is a bad proposal. So it is with that in mind that I urge this Legislature to kill and indefinitely postpone LB 318.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, Senator Beyer, then Senator Haberman. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Call the question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease?